

## 1 CLAIMS

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3 1. A method of installing a trigger group in a firearm, the method including the steps of:

4 (a) assembling a number of trigger group components in a trigger group module;

5 (b) separating an upper receiver from the firearm to expose a trigger group receiving  
6 opening in a lower receiver of the firearm;

7 (c) inserting the trigger group module into the lower receiver through the trigger  
8 group receiving opening; and

9 (d) reconnecting the upper receiver to the lower receiver.  
10

11 2. The method of claim 1 further including the step of retaining the trigger group module in  
12 the lower receiver with one or more retaining devices prior to reconnecting the upper  
13 receiver to the lower receiver.  
14

15 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of retaining the trigger group module in the  
16 operating position includes the step of supporting the trigger group module from a pin  
17 receptacle in the lower receiver.  
18

19 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the step of supporting the trigger group module from the  
20 pin receptacle in the lower receiver includes inserting a pin through the pin receptacle and  
21 through a pin receiver in the trigger group module.  
22

1       5.     The method of claim 3 wherein the step of supporting the trigger group module from the  
2             pin receptacle in the lower receiver includes inserting a pin through the pin receptacle and  
3             through a module pin opening included in the trigger group module.

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5       6.     A method of assembling a firearm having a frame made up of an upper receiver and a  
6             lower receiver, the method including the steps of:

7             (a)     assembling a number of trigger group components in a module housing to produce  
8                     a pre-assembled trigger group module;

9             (b)     placing the pre-assembled trigger group module in an operating position in the  
10                    lower receiver; and

11            (c)     securing the upper receiver to the lower receiver.

12  
13       7.     The method of claim 6 further including the step of securing the pre-assembled trigger  
14             group module in the operating position in the lower receiver prior to securing the upper  
15             receiver to the lower receiver.

16  
17       8.     The method of claim 7 wherein the step of securing the pre-assembled trigger group  
18             module in the operating position includes securing the trigger group module in the  
19             operating position through pin receptacle openings formed in opposing side walls of the  
20             lower receiver.

- 1       9.     A method of installing a trigger group in a firearm, the method including the steps of:
- 2           (a)     removing a first OEM trigger group pin to release a first OEM trigger group
- 3                    component with respect to the firearm and with respect to a second trigger group
- 4                    component;
- 5           (b)     removing a second OEM trigger group pin to release the second trigger group
- 6                    component with respect to the firearm;
- 7           (c)     inserting a trigger group module to an operating position in the firearm, the trigger
- 8                    group module including a trigger group housing and a number of replacement
- 9                    trigger group components; and
- 10          (d)     securing the trigger group module in the operating position through pin receptacle
- 11                    openings that supported either the first OEM trigger group pin or the second OEM
- 12                    trigger group pin.
- 13
- 14       10.    The method of claim 9 wherein the step of securing the trigger group module in the
- 15               operating position includes securing the trigger group module through pin receptacle
- 16               openings that supported the first OEM trigger group pin and through pin receptacle
- 17               openings that supported the second OEM trigger group pin.
- 18
- 19       11.    The method of claim 9 wherein the step of securing the trigger group in the operating
- 20               position includes inserting a first pin through a first pin receiver of the module housing.
- 21

- 1      12.      The method of claim 11 wherein the step of securing the trigger group in the operating  
2                   position includes inserting a second pin through a second pin receiver of the module  
3                   housing.  
4
- 5      13.      The method of claim 9 further including the step of removing an upper receiver from the  
6                   firearm to expose an upper opening in a lower receiver of the firearm and wherein the  
7                   step of inserting the trigger group module to the operating position includes inserting the  
8                   trigger group module through the upper opening in the lower receiver.  
9
- 10     14.      A trigger group module for a firearm, the firearm including a receiver that defines a  
11                   trigger group receiving area between a first receiver side wall and a second receiver side  
12                   wall, the trigger group module including:  
13                   (a)      a module housing adapted to be inserted to an operating position in the trigger  
14                   group receiving area, the module housing having a lower extremity that is located  
15                   above a lowermost edge of the first receiver side wall and a lowermost edge of the  
16                   second receiver side wall when the module housing is in the operating position;  
17                   (b)      a number of trigger group components mounted within the module housing; and  
18                   (c)      a first pin receiver positioned in the module housing so as to align with first pin  
19                   receptacle openings of the firearm when the module housing is in the operating  
20                   position, the first pin receptacle openings defining pin support surfaces formed in  
21                   the first receiver side wall and second receiver side wall.  
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- 1 15. The trigger group module of claim 14 further including a first module pin mounted in the  
2 first pin receiver on which one of the trigger group components is supported in the trigger  
3 group housing, the first module pin including an opening that aligns with the first pin  
4 receptacle openings of the firearm when the module housing is in the operating position.  
5
- 6 16. The trigger group module of claim 14 further including a second pin receiver positioned  
7 in the module housing so as to align with second pin receptacle openings of the firearm  
8 when the module housing is in the operating position, the second pin receptacle openings  
9 defining pin support surfaces formed in the first receiver side wall and second receiver  
10 side wall.  
11
- 12 17. The trigger group module of claim 16 further including a second module pin mounted in  
13 the second pin receiver on which one of the trigger group components is supported in the  
14 trigger group housing, the second module pin including an opening that aligns with the  
15 first pin receptacle openings of the firearm when the module housing is in the operating  
16 position.  
17
- 18 18. The trigger group module of claim 17 further including a first module pin mounted in the  
19 first pin receiver on which one of the trigger group components is supported in the trigger  
20 group housing, the first module pin including an opening that aligns with the first pin  
21 receptacle openings of the firearm when the module housing is in the operating position.  
22

- 1      19.    A trigger group module for a firearm, the trigger group module including:
- 2            (a)    a module housing adapted to be inserted to an operating position in a firearm, the
- 3                        firearm including a receiver that defines a trigger group receiving area between a
- 4                        first receiver side wall and a second receiver side wall and the firearm further
- 5                        including a safety mechanism mounted directly on the receiver;
- 6            (b)    a trigger group component mounted on the module housing and adapted to
- 7                        cooperate with the safety mechanism when the module housing is in the operating
- 8                        position in the firearm and when the safety mechanism is mounted directly on the
- 9                        receiver; and
- 10          (c)    an arrangement for retaining the module housing in the operating position in the
- 11                        firearm.
- 12
- 13      20.    The trigger group module of claim 19 wherein the arrangement for retaining the module
- 14                        housing in the operating position in the firearm includes a first pin receiver positioned in
- 15                        the module housing.
- 16
- 17      21.    The trigger group module of claim 20 wherein the arrangement for retaining the module
- 18                        housing in the operating position in the firearm includes a second pin receiver positioned
- 19                        in the module housing.
- 20
- 21      22.    The trigger group module of claim 21 wherein the arrangement for retaining the module
- 22                        housing in the operating position in the firearm includes:

- 1 (a) a first module pin mounted in the first pin receiver, the first module pin including  
2 an opening that aligns with first pin receptacle openings of the firearm when the  
3 module housing is in the operating position; and  
4 (b) a second module pin mounted in the second pin receiver, the second module pin  
5 including an opening that aligns with second pin receptacle openings of the  
6 firearm when the module housing is in the operating position.  
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